

C L A I M S

1. Longwall support control for controlling the movements of longwall support units in the longwall of a mine,
with a central control system, and
with a plurality of control units, of which a separate control unit (mining shield control device) is locally and operationally associated to each longwall support unit,
with the mining shield control devices connecting to the central control system and to one another by means of a bus line, through which each of mining shield control devices can be called up from the central control system or an adjacent mining shield control device for inputting a control command, and
with each mining shield control device being programmed such that it is possible to deliver for execution to the mining shield control device, control commands that come in via the bus line, and which each store a code word associated to the respectively called up mining shield control device,
characterized in that
the mining shield control devices connect via an identical, second bus line (parallel bus) to the central control system and to one another,
and that the mining shield control device is programmed such that signals that come in via one of the bus lines, and which do not store a code word associated to the respectively called up mining shield control device, are retransmitted to the adjacent mining shield control device.

2. Longwall support control of claim 1,

characterized in that
the mining shield control device comprises an amplifier
for the signals that do not store a code word assigned
to the respectively called up mining shield control
device, and which come in via at least one of the two
bus lines.

3. Longwall support control of claim 1 or
2,
characterized in that
each mining shield control device comprises a switching
element, which permits separating a phase conductor of
at least one of the bus lines.